

Agency: Department of Education and Early Development**Project Title:****Project Type:** Planning and Research

Statewide Library, Archives and Museum Facility - Design and Site Preparation of New Facility

State Funding Requested: \$1,500,000
 Future Funding May Be Requested

House District: Juneau Areawide (3-4)**Brief Project Description:**

This funding, along with the additional funding in the G.O. bond, will finish design and begin the site preparation phase of the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum (SLAM).

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$20,000,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Other Funds	\$18,500,000	2011				
Total	\$18,500,000					

*Explanation of Other Funds:**Designated General funds from G.O. Bond***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This funding will go towards the design and site preparation phase of the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum (SLAM). The project will allow the state to house the entire collection in one location. Currently, each section is housed in facilities that are overcrowded at best, and in such disrepair that one building is literally splitting in two. The Archives suffered a roof failure during a fall rainstorm.

The buildings that house these facilities are failing, too small, and technologically insufficient. They are not integrated for efficient research and operations. The collections are not connected physically or digitally for statewide access. A new building will give Alaska a modern facility to house our history. It will bring together staff and resources to create an efficient and unified resource.

The SLAM project has been in the works for more than a decade. It enjoys support from organizations around the state and past administrations of both political parties. The state owns an appropriate piece of land, and a design contract was signed recently.

SLAM will protect Alaska's treasures in an integrated space and provide both physical and virtual access to the citizens of Alaska and beyond. It will make operations more efficient and better connect our state to the rich resources of our shared history.

Project Timeline:

Design is underway. Site Preparation will begin immediately upon sale of the G.O. Bonds.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Division of Library, Archives and Museum
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Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Linda Thibodeau, Dir. Library, Archives and Museum
Address:	801 W 10th St Ste 200 Juneau, AK 99811
Phone Number:	465-2911
Email:	linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Did You Know . . .



- ♦ The Alaska State Historical Library and Museum was **founded in 1900** by the US Congress. The Museum was opened to the public in 1920, and moved into its **current facility in 1968** when the Library and Museum were divided
- ♦ The current building was **constructed by the City of Juneau and donated** to the state in honor of the centennial of the United States purchasing Alaska from Russia
- ♦ Since then, the Alaska State Museum's collection has grown from 5,600 objects to **over 27,000**. Since the **mid-1980s**, the building has been **over capacity**, and an off-site storage annex holds the overflow collections
- ♦ The Museum is **open to the public**, and provides research assistance to individuals, groups, and agencies. It also sends **traveling exhibits statewide** and maintains an **online collections database**
- ♦ A network of **museums around the state** rely on grants-in-aid and technical assistance from the State Museum for artifact preservation, collection management, educational programming, exhibit design and museum management.
- ♦ Collections are stored under conditions which **endanger their long-term stability**, including threats of moisture, water, and mold damage, rodent infestations, and overcrowding of available space



PICTURES, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Guests enjoy the State Museum; Sen. Ellis tours the museum's collections facilities; Sen. Ellis and Sen. Dyson with the flag that flew over Sitka during the ceremonies which transferred Alaska to the United States



Did You Know . . .



- ♦ The Alaska Historical Museum and Library was established by the U.S. Congress in 1900, and the State Library was created in 1955, and moved into the **current location in the State Office Building in 1974.**
- ♦ Five years after expansion into the last available space, the Library is at **full efficient operating capacity**, with 163,000 rare books, maps, and photographs filling 3,500 linear feet of shelves and files
- ♦ The Historical Collections maintains the **personal papers of prominent** Alaskans and business records of companies that played a major role in Alaska's development. The book collection is a **comprehensive source for published material about Alaska** as well as a depository of record copies of agency publications
- ♦ The Library occupies **20,400 square feet on the 7th and 8th floors of the State Office Building.** The use of prime office space as library storage is inefficient, and the **lack of environmental control inhibits preservation** and storage efforts in the Historical Collections
- ♦ The Library **coordinates the statewide interlibrary loan program**, provides **research assistance** to the public and state agencies, and **promotes local libraries** through grants, training, and consulting

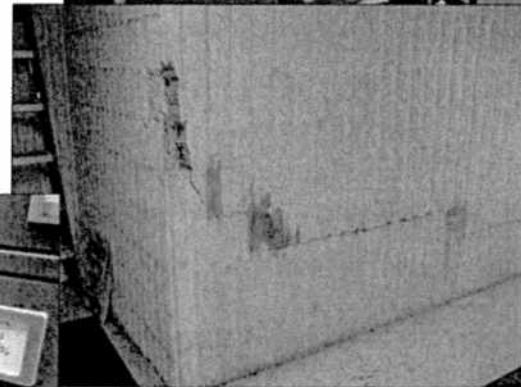


PICTURES, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: documents in the Historical Collections in storage; the nameplate identifying a book as a part of the James Wickersham collection, whose library is the core of the Library's Alaskana collection; record copies of state agency publications

Did You Know . . .



- ♦ The Alaska State Archives hold the official government records of the State of Alaska, dating back to **1874**, including territorial and state gubernatorial and legislative files, territorial court records, and community-based state government records
- ♦ The Archives are **open to the public**, and provide research assistance to state agencies and the general public
- ♦ The Archives were established in 1970, and their current home was **constructed in 1977**. The original secured vault storage facility became **inadequate in the 1980s**, and the archives expanded into the record storage area, holding historic documents under conditions designed for short-term processing of modern records. Some records must now be stored offsite. Approximately five years ago, the **lobby area was converted to storage**. In recent years, the loading docks have been used as temporary storage as well.
- ♦ The rear half of the building was constructed on bedrock, but the front half was **constructed on silt**. This construction flaw has led to the front half sinking, walls cracking, doors shifting, and other structural failings.
- ♦ Leaks threaten the integrity of the inner vault, with **high humidity, standing water and mold growth**.
- ♦ The Archives occupy more than **10,000 square feet of prime downtown state-owned office space**



PICTURES, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: historic ledgers in storage on the loading dock; cracks in the wall from the unstable foundation, legislative records on micro-fiche, and boxes of documents in the records room

Alaska State Legislature

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182

August 21, 2009

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Governor Parnell:

Members of the legislature are coming together seeking funds to house the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum (SLAM) in one location. Currently, each section is housed in facilities that are overcrowded at best, and in such disrepair that one building is literally splitting in two.

The buildings that house these facilities are failing, too small, and technologically insufficient. They are not integrated for efficient research and operations. The collections are not connected physically or digitally for statewide access. A new building will give Alaska a modern facility to house our history. It will bring together staff and resources to create an efficient and unified resource.

The SLAM project has been in the works for more than a decade. It enjoys support from organizations around the state and past administrations of both political parties. The state owns an appropriate piece of land, and funds for planning and design are in hand. We ask your support in the FY 11 budget to move the project forward.

It's time to protect Alaska's treasures in an integrated space. It's time to provide actual and virtual access to the citizens of Alaska and beyond. We can make operations more efficient and better connect our state to the rich resources of our shared history.

We appreciate your support for this important project. We look forward to working with you to secure funding. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Sen. Dennis Egan.

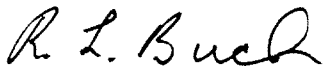
Sen. Dennis Egan

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is "Beth Kerttula" and the second is "Cathy Muñoz".

Rep. Beth Kerttula

Rep. Cathy Muñoz

Governor Sean Parnell
August 21, 2009
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Rep. Bob Buch



Rep. Harry Crawford



Rep. Max Gruenberg



Rep. Woodie Salmon



Rep. David Guttenberg



Rep. Sharon Cissna



Rep. Pete Petersen



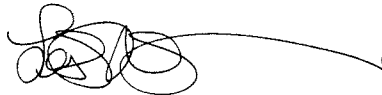
Sen. Linda Menard




Sen. Gary Stevens



Sen. Johnny Ellis



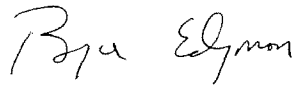
Sen. Lesil McGuire



Sen. Con Bunde



Sen. Hollis French



Rep. Bryce Edgmon



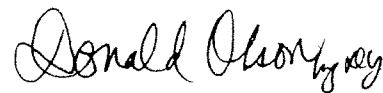
Rep. Mike Hawker



Sen. Bill Wielechowski



Sen. Joe Paskvan



Sen. Donny Olson



Sen. Joe Thomas

cc: Karen Rehfeld, Director

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Governor Sean Parnell
STATE OF ALASKA

September 14, 2009

The Honorable Beth Kerttula
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 404
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum Project

Dear Representative Kerttula,

Thank you for your August 21 letter regarding funding for the Alaska State Library, Archives, and Museum (SLAM) project. The expansion of the existing museum facility in Juneau to preserve and protect archival documents and photographs along with the extensive collection of artifacts is an important project for all citizens of Alaska.

I am working with state agencies on development of the FY2011 operating and capital budgets that will be released to the public in December. Positioning us for economic development and strengthening Alaska's families continue to be my priorities. These priorities will be the focus as funding decisions are made. Alaskans will also see a significant effort to provide relevant information to the public that ties state investments to results. Within this framework, I will look carefully at what is possible in the FY2011 budget to advance the SLAM project.

With continuing pressure on the operating and capital budgets, it is imperative that we make good funding decisions today that will enhance opportunities for our state in the future. I look forward to working closely with you, other legislators, and the public to address critical needs in Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sean Parnell".

Sean Parnell
Governor

Distribution:

The Honorable Con Bunde, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Dennis Egan, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Johnny Ellis, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Hollis French, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Lesil McGuire, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Linda Menard, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Donny Olson, Alaska State Senate

The Honorable Beth Kerttula
September 8, 1009
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The Honorable Joe Paskvan, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Gary Stevens, President, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Joe Thomas, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Bill Wielechowski, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Bob Buch, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Sharon Cissna, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Harry Crawford, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Bryce Edgmon, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Max Gruenberg, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable David Guttenberg, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Mike Hawker, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Beth Kerttula, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Cathy Muñoz, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Pete Petersen, Alaska House of Representatives
The Honorable Woodie Salmon, Alaska House of Representatives

cc: Larry LeDoux, Commissioner, Department of Education and Early Development
Jerry Gallagher, Director, Communications and Governmental Affairs, Office of the
Governor